

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 EA-10 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 ARAE-00

AGR-10 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-01

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

AID-05 CIEP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15

PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 FEA-01 OES-05 ERDA-07 ACDA-10

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P R 171100Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0395

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

US MISSION OECD PARIS UNN

US MISSION IAEA GENEVA 0276

RUFHBS/US MISSION EC BRUSSELS 0121

US MISSION MTN DEL GENEVA UNN

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 3 BRASILIA 5879

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (ROBINSON, CHARLES A.) ENRG, ETRD, EMIN, EAGR, EFIN, BR, U

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SUBJ: UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON'S VISIT TO BRAZIL - PRESS REPORTING

REF: BRASILIA 5761, 5774, 5696, 5717, 5666 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: THE JULY 10-11 VISIT OF UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON TO BRASILIA GENERATED EXTENSIVE AND ESSENTIALLY FAVORABLE PRESS REPORTING WHICH HIGHLIGHTED THE UNDER SECRETARY'S PROPOSAL FOR RESUMING THE PRODUCER/CONSUMER DIALOGUE. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF SOME APPARENTLY OFFICIALLY INSPIRED EXAGGERATIONS OF POSITIONS TAKEN BY BRAZILIAN INTERLOCUTORS OF ROBINSON, THE PRESS ACCOUNTS WERE REASONABLY ACCURATE. THIS GENERALLY POSITIVE PRESS REACTION MAY HAVE HELPED TO OFFSET THE HIGH PITCH OF RECENT PRESS PLAY FOCUSING ON DIVISIVE ELEMENTS--THE GERMAN/BRAZILIAN NUCLEAR AGREEMENT, THE NORTHOP DISCLOSURES, AND THE COFFEE NEGOTIATIONS IN LONDON. THE MAIN POINTS IN THE PRESS REPORTING WERE: A) THE US POSITION ON THE PRODUCER/CONSUMER DIALOGUE BECAME MORE FLEXIBLE, AND THE UNDER SECRETARY IS NOW SEEKING THE SUPPORT OF BRAZIL AND OTHER GROUP OF TEN COUNTRIES FOR A FORMULA TO RESUME THE DIALOGUE ; B) THE FORMULA WOULD INVOLVE ANOTHER MEETING OF THE GROUP OF 10, AND ITS SUBSEQUENT EXPANSION TO A CONFERENCE OF 27 WHICH WOULD ESTABLISH THREE EQUAL LEVEL COMMISSIONS TO DISCUSS ENERGY. OTHER RAW MATERIALS. AND ASSISTANCE TO LDC'S; C) THE EXCHANGE OF IDEAS WITH THE GOB WAS FRUITFUL, COOPERATIVE , AND INTIMATE; D) THE US AND BRAZIL ARE ESTABLISHING A BILATERAL ECONOMIC CONSULTATIVE MECHANISM TO DISCUSS TRADE AND OTHER ECONOMIC ISSUES; E) THE US CONTINUES TO FAVOR REGIONAL COOPERATION IN LA BUT IT WOULD LIKE TO HAVE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SELA'S OBJECTIVES; F) THE UNDER SECRETARY DID NOT CRITICIZE THE GERMAN/BRAZILIAN NUCLEAR AGREEMENT BUT INSTEAD EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO BRING US/BRAZILIAN RELATION CLOSER TOGETHER, H) THE UNDER SECRETARY DENIED THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER HAD SET A MID-AUGUST DATE TO VISIT BRASIL. PARA 11 STATEMENT READ BY THE UNDER SECRETARY AT CONTAINS THE TEXT OF THE HIS JULY 11 PRESS CONFERENCE.
END SUMMARY

2. ON THE DAY THE UNDER SECRETARY ARRIVED (JULY 10), THE RESPONSIBLE BRAZILIAN PRESS REPORTED THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER'S "DIRECT" AND "MOSTAUTHORITATIVE" ASSISTANT FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS UNCLASSIFIED

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WAS COMING TO BRAZIL FOR CONSULTATIONS ON THE PRODUCER/CONSUMER DIALOGUE, RAW MATERIALS, FOOD, BILATERAL TRADE, AND HEMISPHERIC AND WORLD POLICIES IN GENERAL. REFERENCES WERE MADE TO EARLIER US/BRAZILIAN EXCHANGES OF IDEAS ON FOOD AND ON THE MTN TALKS. THE ENERGY CONSULTATIONS WERE GOING TO BE "FRANK" BECAUSE THE US BELIEVED THAT THE OIL PROBLEM HAD REACHED A CRUCIAL MOMENT IN WHICH SOME SHORT-RUN SOLUTIONS WOULD HAVE TO BE FOUND. THE US HAD BEEN INFLEXIBLE AT THE APRIL PREPCON IN REFUSING

TO DISCUSS OTHER RAW MATERIALS. ROBINSON WAS COMING TO DEFEND THE MORE OPEN POSITION OUTLINED IN SECRETARY KISSINGER'S JUNE 13 SPEECH. THE US REALIZED, HOWEVER, THAT BRAZIL'S POSITION IN THE PRODUCER/CONSUMER DIALOGUE WAS DIFFICULT BECAUSE OF ITS DEPENDENCE ON ARAB OIL. ROBINSON WAS EXPECTED TO INFORM THE GOB THAT THE US EXPECTED AN ALTERATION IN OPEC'S POSITION, AND THAT OPEC WOULD ANNOUNCE A PRICE RISE THIS MONTH. THE WOULD ALSO ANNOUNCE WHAT MEASURES THE US WAS TAKING TO REDUCE ITS DEPENDENCE ON OIL.

3. ONE NEWSPAPER, BRASILIA'S CONSERVATIVE CORREIO BRASILIENSE WAS WIDE OF THE MARK IN PREDICTING THAT ROBINSON'S MAIN OBJECTIVES WERE TO BLOCK THE CREATION OF SELA, TO TRY TO SELL US NUCLEAR EQUIPMENT TO SUPPLEMENT THE GERMAN/BRASILIAN NUCLEAR AGREEMENT, AND TO DISCUSS WITH AGRICULTURE MINISTER PAULINELLI THE CREATION OF A "WORLD BANK" FOR DROUGHT-PRONE COUNTRIES.

4. ON JULY 11, MOST PRESS HEADLINES, APPARENTLY BASED ON A BACKGROUNDER GIVEN BY PLANNING MINISTER REIS VELLOSO OR A MEMBER OF HIS STAFF FOLLOWING THE REIS VELLOSO-ROBINSON MEETING, ON JULY 10 PROCLAIMED THAT REIS VELLOSO, HAD ASKED THAT THE -US END ITS PROTECTIONISM". THE LONE EXCEPTION, THE PRESTIGIOUS O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO, LED ITS COVERAGE WITH EXTENSIVE QUOTES FROM THE UNDER SECRETARY'S ARRIVAL STATEMENT (BRASILIA 5666, NOTAL) , CAPTAINED WITH THE DEADLINE, "ROBINSON: DIFFERENCES DO NOT IMPEDE THE 'OPEN DIALOGUE'". ALL PAPERS REPORTED THAT VELLOSO HAS SAID THE PRINCIPAL POINT IN US/BRASILIAN BILATERAL RELATIONS WAS THAT THE US NOT "PLACE ANY OBSTACLE TO BRAZILIAN EXPORTS". HE WAS REPORTED AS HAVING DEFENDED BRAZIL'S GOAL OF INCREASING BRAZILIAN EXPORTS TO THE US BY POINTING TO BRASIL'S \$1.4 BILLION BILATERAL TRADE DEFICIT WITH THE US IN 1974, WHICH SHOWED THAT BRAZIL DID NOT CAUSE DIFFICULTIES FOR THE US. HE WAS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID: "WHILE US PROTECTIONIST MEASURES UNCLASSIFIED

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WERE JUSTIFIED, THEY SHOULD NOT BE APPLIED INDISCRIMINATELY ESPECIALLY SINCE BRAZIL ACCOUNTS FOR ONLY A SMALL PROPORTION OF US IMPORTS OF MANUFACTURED GOOD." ON JULY 12, THE LIBERAL JORNAL DE BRASILIA CLAIMED THAT VELLOSO'S WARNING WAS REFLECTED THE NEXT DAY (JULY 11) IN THE UNDER SECRETARY'S STATEMENT THAT THE US WAS CHANGING ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LDC'S. ON JULY 12, FOLHA DE SAO PAULO PRAISED REIS VELLOSO FOR USING BLUNT FRANKNESS, USUALLY USED BY US NEGOTIATORS, TO PRESENT BRAZIL'S POSITION REGARDING OBSTACLES TO BRAZILIAN EXPORTS TO THE US. (IN ACTUAL FACT, REIS VELLOSO TOUCHED ONLY VERY GENERALLY AND FLEETINGLY ON US TRADE RESTRICTIONS IN HIS MEETING WITH ROBINSON.)

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US MISSION OECD PARIS UNN

US MISSION IAEA GENEVA 0277

RUFHBS/US MISSION EC BRUSSELS 0122

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5. OTHER PRESS REPORTING ON JULY 11 INCLUDED:

A FONMIN SPOKESMAN MADE CLEAR THAT DISCUSSIONS WITH THE UNDER SECRETARY ON COFFEE WOULD NOT IN ANY WAY INFLUENCE BRAZIL'S POSITION IN LONDON.

THE SAME SPOKESMAN DENIED THAT ROBINSON HAD BROUGHT PROPOSALS FOR THE SUPPLY OF US NUCLEAR EQUIPMENT TO SUPPLEMENT THE GERMAN CONTRACTS.

THE US DELEGATION SHOWED GREAT INTEREST IN LEARNING ABOUT HOW BRAZIL HAS BEEN CONDUCTING ITS ECONOMIC POLICY IN THE FACE OF THE RECENT INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES. THE PRESIDENT OF THE BANK OF BRAZIL, ANGELO CALMON DE SA, TALKED WITH THE UNDER SECRETARY ABOUT COUNTERVAILING DUTIES, CERTAIN "DRACONIAN" PROVISIONS OF THE TRADE ACT, AND AN EXPANSION OF BANK OF BRAZIL OFFICES IN THE US. (THIS VERSION OF THE CONVERSATION, AGAIN APPARENTLY BASED ON BACKGROUNDING BY BANK OF BRAZIL OFFICIALS, HAD NO RELATIONSHIP TO THE ACTUAL CONVERSATION, EXCEPT FOR THE LAST POINT WHICH WAS TOUCHED ON BY CALMON DE SA IN AN INFORMATIVE SAY.)

6. THE HEAVY PRESS COVERAGE ON JULY 12 CENTERED ON THE UNDER SECRETARY'S REQUEST FOR BRAZILIAN SUPPORT OF A FORMULA TO RESUME THE PRODUCER/CONSUMER DIALOGUE. ON THIS SUBJECT, THE PRESS REPORTED THAT, AT HIS PRESS CONFERENCE THE PREVIOUS EVENING (JULY 11), THE UNDER SECRETARY HAD SAID THAT: THE PRINCIPAL MOTIVE OF HIS TRIP WAS TO DISCUSS WITH BRAZILIAN AUTHORITIES OUR RESPECTIVE POSITION IN THE PRODUCER/CONSUMER DIALOGUE. THE CONSULTATIONS INDICATED BRAZILIAN SUPPORT AND SYMPATHY REGARDING THE REINITIATING OF THE DIALOGUE. THE OBJECTIVE IS FOR THE TEN PARTICIPANTS IN THE APRIL PREPCON TO MEET AGAIN IN PARIS AND TO ESTABLISH THE BASES TO EXPAND THE GROUP TO 27.

AT THE MEETING OF THE EXPANDED GROUP, THREE COMMISSIONS OF EQUAL WEIGHT WOULD BE FORMED TO DISCUSS AND STUDY ENERGY, OTHER IMPORTANT RAW MATERIALS, AND RELATIONS WITH LDC'S REGARDING THE ELABORATION OF MORE EFFICIENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS. HE HAS BEEN ENGAGING IN PRELIMINARY EXCHANGES OF IDEAS
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WITH THE GROUP OF 10 ABOUT THE SITE, DATE, MECHANISM, AND THEMES OF THE NEXT MEETING. HE DID NOT COME WITH CONCRETE PROPOSALS ABOUT THE FORM OF THE DEBATE, BUT WANTED ONLY TO DISCUSS SOME QUESTIONS RELA-

TIVE TO THE PROBLEM. HE WAS SURE THAT WE HAD MADE PROGRESS IN VENEZUELA AND BRAZIL.

THE POLICY OF THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES HAS BEEN MODIFIED IN THE LAST THREE MONTHS--BASICALLY, WE RECOGNIZE THE NECESSITY THAT COUNTRIES MOVE MORE RAPIDLY IN ORDER TO REFLECT THE REALITY OF A MORE INTERDEPENDENT WORLD. THIS WAS REFLECTED IN HENRY KISSINGER'S SPEECHES IN KANSAS CITY AND PARIS.

BASIC IDEAS OF ALL COUNTRIES ABOUT ENERGY ARE EVOLVING, AND NOT ONLY THOSE OF THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES. HE BELIEVED THAT THERE WOULD BE A GENERAL UNDERSTANDING, STARTING WITH PROGRESS WHICH SHOULD BE ATTAINED IN THE DISCUSSIONS AMONG THE GROUP OF 10 PARTICIPANTS.

THE EXCHANGES OF IDEAS WITH THE GOB WERE FRUITFUL, COOPERATIVE AND INTIMATE. IT IS IMPORTANT FOR THE US TO LEARN WORLD ISSUES.

HE BELIEVED THAT, AFTER TWO DAYS OF NEGOTIATION, HE HAD A "CONCRETE PERCEPTION" OF BRAZILIAN POSITIONS.

7. THE JORNAL DE BRASILIA AND RIO'S JORNAL DO BRASIL SOMEHOW CONCLUDED FROM THE UNDER SECRETARY'S REMARKS THAT HE HAD EXTENDED TO BRAZIL AN INVITATION TO JOIN THE CONSUMERS' GROUP IN THE PRODUCER/CONSUMER DIALOGUE. THE RIO PAPER ALSO REPORTED THAT BRAZILIAN FOMIN SOURCES NOW FORESEE THAT THE US WILL ADOPT A MORE FLEXIBLE ATTITUDE IN THE NEXT SESSION OF THE PRODUCER/CONSUMER DIALOGUE.

8. ON OTHER TOPICS, O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO REPORTED THAT THE UNDER SECRETARY SAID:

BRAZIL AND THE US ARE FORMING A SPECIAL ECONOMIC CONSULTATIVE GROUP FOR THE DISCUSSION OF IDEAS ON BILATERAL RELATIONS AND TRADE AS WELL AS ON COMMON POSITIONS IN THE MULTILATERAL AREA. THE SUB-GROUP ON TRADE WILL MEET IN THREE MONTHS. BRAZIL IS CONCERNED ABOUT ITS \$1.4 BILLION 1974 BILATERAL TRADE DEFICIT WITH THE US.

"THE US IS ANXIOUS TO STUDY THE ISSUE OF ACCESS TO MARKETS IN THE GATT NEGOTIATIONS, AND IT IS PREPARED TO STRIVE FOR THE STABILIZATION OF LDC'S WHICH DEPEND SUBSTANTIALLY

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ON ONE OR MORE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS. WE ARE READY TO CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF EMERGENCY STOCKS TO RESPOND TO PRICES SET BY DEMAND. WE ARE PREPARED TO GIVE MORE STUDY TO RELATIONS WITH FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS IN ORDER TO GENERATE THE NECESSARY PRODUCTIVE CAPITAL FOR LDC'S"

IN REFERENCE TO SELA, THE US CONTINUES TO FAVOR REGIONAL COLLABORATION IN LATIN AMERICA BUT THAT IS A PROBLEM WHICH OUGHT TO BE EXAMINED BY THE PARTICIPANTS. THE US IS ATTENTIVE TO THE DEBATES ABOUT SELA, ALTHOUGH ITS OBJECTIVES STILL ARE NOT CLEAR.

WE HAVE NO PROBLEM WHICH PREVENTS US FROM SUPPORTING REGIONAL

COOPERATION, BUT WE WANT AND NEED TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE SUBJECT.

ON COFFEE, THE US IS TRYING TO FIND AN ARRANGEMENT WHICH IS FAIR TO PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS. HE WAS NOT CURRENT ABOUT THE PROBLEM WHICH HAS EMERGED IN LONDON. IT WAS CLEAR, HOWEVER, THAT THERE WAS A MISUNDERSTANDING WHICH THE US WAS GOING TO CLARIFY. HE BELIEVED THAT SATISFACTORY SOLUTIONS WOULD BE FOUND SOON.

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P R 171100Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0397

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

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AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

US MISSION OECD PARIS UNN

US MISSION IAEA GENEVA 0278

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AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO
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UNCLAS SECTION 3 OF 3 BRASILIA 5879

E.O. 11652: N/A

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SUBJ: UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON'S VISIT TO BRAZIL - PRESS REPORTING

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9. UEKI MEETING: NUCLEAR AND SOLAR ENERGY. THE PRESS SAID THE AGENDA FOR THE UNDER SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH MINES AND ENERGY MINISTER UEKI INCLUDED BRAZILIAN PARTICIPATION IN AN ORGANIZATION OF OIL CONSUMERS, THE NUCLEAR ENERGY PROGRAM, THE HYDROELECTRIC PROGRAM, THE USE OF SOLAR ENERGY, AND BRAZILIAN MINERAL DEVELOPMENT. THE JORNAL DE BRASILIA REPORTED THAT A MINISTRY SOURCE HAD CHARACTERIZED THE MEETING AS "EXTREMELY CRODIAL". THE SAME PAPER SAID THAT THE UNDER SECRETARY AHD PROMISED FULL US COOPERATION TO BRAZIL ON SOLAR ENERGY, AND THAT THE US WOULD PERMIT BRAZIL TO OBTAIN SIGNIFICANT ADVANCES IN SOLAR ENERGY RESEARCH. SEVERAL NEWSPAPERS SAID THAT THE UNDER SECRETARY DID NOT CRITICIZE THE GERMAN/BRAZILIAN NUCLEAR AGREEMENT, BUT INSTEAD EXPRESSEC THE US'S DESIRE TO BRING OUR RELATIONS EVEN CLOSER TOGETHER. THIS WOULD INCLUDE EXCHANGES IN THE SCIENTIFIC AREA, ESPECIALLY REGARDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BRAZILIAN SOLAR ENERGY RESEARCH PROGRAM. (THE REFERENCES TO DISCUSSIONS OF SOLAR ENERGY ARE EXTRAPOLATIONS OF AN EXPRESSION OF INTEREST BY UEKI IN BRASILIA PARTICIPATION IN THE ERDA ENERGY RESEARCH PROGRAM.)

10. KISSINGER VISIT. THE UNDER SECRETARY DENIED REPORTS IN THE BRAZILIAN PRESS THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER HAD SET A MID-AUGUST DATE TO VISIT BRAZIL. ACCORDING TO THE UNDER SECRETARY, KISSINGER HAD SAID ONLY THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO VISIT BRAZIL IN THE NEAR FUTURE, BUT HE WAS INVOLVED NOW IN MIDDLE EAST PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

11. TEXT OF STATEMENT READ BY UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON AT HIS PRESS CONFERENCE ON 11 JULY 1975. BEGIN TEXT. WE HAVE HAD A SERIES OF FRANK AND FRUITFUL DISCUSSIONS ON A NUMBER OF ECONOMIC QUESTIONS INCLUDING RESUMPTION OF THE PRODUCER/CONSUMER DIALOGUE IN PARIS, MULTILATERAL AND BILATERAL TRADE ISSUES. AS A RESULT OF THESE TALKS, WHICH SERVED TO UNDERLINE THE INCREASING IMPORTANCE OF ECONOMIC QUESTIONS IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIPS, WE HAVE AGREED ON THE USEFULNESS OF A CONTIN-

UNG CONSULTATIVE GROUP ON ECONOMIC MATTERS WHICH COULD MEET
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TO REVIEW GLOBAL, REGIONAL, AND BILATERAL ECONOMIC ISSUES AND
SEEK TO IDENTIFY SOLUTIONS TO THEM. IN THE AREA OF TRADE POLICY,
TO WHICH WE ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE, WE HAVE AGREED TO ESTAB-
LISH AN AUTONOMOUS SUB-GROUP TO DEAL BOTH WITH BILATERAL AND
MULTILATERAL ISSUES. THIS GROUP WILL INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES
FROM THE VARIOUS AGENCIES IN THE US AND BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT
CONCERNED WITH THIS SUBJECT. IT WILL MEET HERE IN BRASILIA
WITHIN THE NEXT 3 MONTHS, AND WE HAVE EXPECTATIONS THAT IT
WILL LEAD TO MUCH MORE EFFECTIVE AND CONTINUING COMMUNICATION
IN THIS IMPORTANT AREA THAN HAS BEEN THE CASE IN THE PAST.
END TEXT.
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